

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02
/159 W

-----017681 241446Z /50

P 241428Z FEB 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6399
INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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USMTN
ACTION STR PASS ELECTRICALLY
STR PASS CODEL

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, SG
SUBJECT: BILATERAL MEETING WITH SENEGAL

1. SUMMARY. U.S. DEL (MIMS) MET FEBRUARY 23 WITH
SENEGAL DEL (DIOUF) TO DISCUSS U.S. AND SENEGALESE OFFERS
AND REQUESTS AND MTN ACTIVITIES OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.
END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. DEL MADE A BRIEF PRESENTATION OF WHAT THE U.S.
OFFER MIGHT MEAN TO SENEGAL. BASED ON CURRENT TRADE
PATTERNS (U.S. DUTIABLE IMPORTS FROM SENEGAL WERE \$45,600
IN 1976) OUR OFFER IS LARGELY LIMITED TO POTENTIAL TRADE
VALUES. SENEGAL IS, HOWEVER, INTERESTED IN PURSUING A
BINDING AT FREE ON FRESH TUNA AND IN LOWERING DUTIES ON
CANNED TUNA (NON-GSP) PRODUCTS WHICH ARE OF POTENTIAL
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INTEREST.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE U.S. AND SENEGALESE REQUESTS, U.S.
DEL POINTED OUT THAT SINCE SENEGAL'S REQUESTS ON AGRICUL-
TURE AND NTM'S WERE TABLED IN JANUARY, WE HAD NO RESPONSE
AS YET. U.S. DEL NOTED THAT IN MOST PRODUCT AREAS
REQUESTED SENEGAL HAD NO CURRENT TRADE WITH THE U.S.

DIOUF REPLIED THAT THESE WERE AREAS WHERE THEY THOUGHT THEY HAD POTENTIAL TO EXPORT TO THE U.S. U.S. DEL ALSO POINTED OUT THAT REQUESTS FOR GSP TREATMENT SHOULD BE PURSUED BILATERALLY, SINCE GSP IS UNILATERAL IN NATURE AND NOT NEGOTIABLE IN THE MTN.

4. DIOUF SAID THAT THE U.S. INDICATIVE LISTS WERE "UNDER STUDY" IN DAKAR, AND THAT THEIR RESPONSE WOULD BE LARGELY AFFECTED BY OUR RESPONSES TO THEIR REQUESTS. HE POINTED OUT THAT OUR REQUEST FOR A REDUCTION IN THE TARIFF ON PROTEINS WAS MEANINGLESS SINCE THE QUANTITY OF PROTEIN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. IS LIMITED BY "FISCAL CONTROLS" (HARD CURRENCY ALLOCATIONS) AND LITTLE AFFECTED BY THE TARIFF. IN AN UNOFFICIAL RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST, DIOUF SAID THAT THE GOS WAS RAISING THE ALLOCATION FOR PROTEIN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. IN 1978 TO 30 MILLION FRENCH FRANCS, FROM 12 MILLION IN 1977. ACTUAL IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. IN 1977 WERE OVER 15 MILLION. U.S. DEL POINTED OUT THAT THESE IMPORT ALLOCATIONS APPEAR TO BE FOR SOYA-TYPE PROTEINS, AND THAT ALTHOUGH THE INCREASES WERE PROBABLY WELCOME, THEY WERE NOT DIRECTLY RESPONSIVE TO OUR REQUESTS ON VEGETABLE PROTEIN, WHICH COVER HIGH PROTEIN FOOD EXTENDERS.

5. WITH REGARD TO OUR REQUEST TO END THE DISCRIMINATORY "DROIT DE DOUANE" ON IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. VIS-A-VIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE EEC, DIOUF SAID THAT GIVEN THE HIGH PROPORTION OF GOVERNMENT REVENUES THAT COME FROM TARIFFS, ANY SOLUTION THAT THEY MIGHT OFFER WOULD MORE LIKELY BE TO RAISE THE EEC PREFERENTIAL RATE TO MATCH THE RATE FOR OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, THAN TO LOWER RATES.

6. U.S. DEL ENCOURAGED DIOUF TO TABLE ANY FURTHER REQUESTS SENEGAL MIGHT HAVE ON NONAGRICULTURAL ITEMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, HOPEFULLY BY MARCH 1, SO THAT THEY MIGHT GET FULL CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON. WE AGREED TO MEET AGAIN ON A REGULAR BASIS IN THE COMING MONTHS.

7. COMMENT: SENEGAL'S INTEREST VIS-A-VIS U.S. IN MTN IS NOT OVERWHELMING, GIVEN CURRENT LOW LEVEL OF U.S./ SENEGAL TRADE AND SENEGAL'S TRADITIONAL COMMERCIAL TIES WITH THE EEC. DIOUF SAID THAT GOS WOULD WELCOME GREATER U.S. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY IN SENEGAL, SINCE MORE US-EEC COMPETITION WOULD BE GOOD FOR SENEGAL. U.S. DEL'S IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, IS THAT SENEGAL WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO PAY MUCH FOR IT.

8. DRAFTED BY MIMS. CULBERT

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